of the present Government i.e., from 21.6.91 to 20.6.1992, approvals have been accorded to 500 applications for foreign collaboration envisaging foreign direct investment of Rs. 1823 crores. 51 applications have been rejected. These include applications received during the period as also those pending at the beginning of the period.

(c) The number of applications for financial foreign collaboration pending as on 21.6.92 was 83. These proposals envisage foreign direct investment of Rs. 1059 crores.

(d) and (e) Industries listed in Annexure III of the Statement of Industrial Policy laid on the Table of the House on 24th July, 1991 are eligible for automatic approval by the Reserve Bank of India for direct foreign investment upto 51 per cent provided the foreign equity covers foreign exchange requirement for imported capital goods.

Other proposals for foreign investment outside the parameters for automatic clearance including proposals envisaging foreign investment more than 51 per cent are also considered and cleared on merits by the Government taking into account factors like export potential, employment potential and other benefits likely to accrue to the Indian Economy. The facility of foreign equity, investment upto 100 per cent in fully (100 per cent) export oriented units is available. Further, NRIs and Overseas corporate bodies predominently owned by them are also permitted to invest upto 100 per cent foreign equity in high priority Annexure III industries. The facility of foreign investment upto 100 per cent is also available in power section.

Short fall in output in cement industry

803. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the cement industry has reported a shortfall in output during the quarter, April-June this year;

(b) if so, whether the industry would be able to achieve the annual production target for 1992-93;

(c) whether according to industries sources the shortfall is due to the inadequate coal supply to industry, frequent power cuts in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh where a large number of cement plants have been located, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Planning Commission has indicated any target of cement production by the terminal year of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) whether there is any adverse effect on export, if so, what are the figures of last year export; and

(f) whether steps are being taken to resolve the issue, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The actual production during the quarter April-June 1992 was slightly below the target for the period. However, by providing adequate infrastructural support including coal linkage and wagon supply, the cement industry can achieve the production target for the year 1992-93. Industry has referred to inadequate infrastructural support as one of the causes for shortfall in production, Government has been constantly reviewing and taking measures to ensure infrastructural support for the cement industry.

(d) The target set by the Planning Commission for the terminal year of the Eighth Five Year Plan is 76 million tonnes.

(e) and (f) Cement export during 1990-91 was of the order of 2.66 lakh

tonnes and was 2.23 lakh tonnes in 1991-92 (April to December). No problem is envisaged in ensuring for requisite level of export.

Commissioning of New All India Radio Stations in A.P.

804. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to commission new All India Radio Stations in Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) A local Radio Station with 2x3 KW FM Transmitter and Multi-purpcse Studios at Mercapuram is envisaged to be technically ready by September, 1992. The Station will be commissioned once the minimum essential staff required for its operation and maintenace is in position.

Impact of MTV on Doordarshan

805. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTV is all set to rock Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and whether any study has been made out by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) No. Sir. There is no discernible evidence to this effect. A survey conducted by Doordarshan indicated that the viewing of MTV is limited to a small section of urban youth.

Negotiations for Asiasat Transponder

806. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are negotiating for a transponder on the Star TV satellite (Asiasat);

(b) if so, whether the Department of Space has given its concurrence to this proposals; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS). (a) to (c) While there is a proposal for a visit by a delegation from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting to discuss with M/s. Asia Satellite Telecommunications Co. Ltd. the possibility of hiring of a transponder on Asiasat, no formal negotiations are being carried on at present.

Telecast of News in Urdu, Sanskrit and Regional Languages

807. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to telecast news in Urdu on Doordarshan;

(b) whether Government have evolved a national policy on the telecast of news in regional languages on Doordarshan;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government have decided to telecast news in Sanskrit on Doordarshan, if so, by when the telecast is scheduled to be started; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) A five minute Urdu news bulletin has been started recently from Doordarshan Kendras Delhi (metro channel), Lucknow, Patna and Hyderabad.